

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00614 091720Z

53

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EA-06 EB-07 COME-00 OMB-01 /084 W

----- 103615

R 071000Z JUN 75

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2072

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 614

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, IZ

SUBJECT: ACTIVITY IN UMM QASR

REF: BAGHDAD 129

1. REFTEL REPORTED ON COLUMNIST ROWLAND EVANS VISIT TO UMM QASR AND HIS VIEWS ON ABSENCE SIGNS OF SOVIET NAVAL FACILITIES. FOLLOWING EVENTS ALSO SUPPORT VIEW THAT UMM QASR IS NOT SOVIET NAVAL BASE AND THAT GOI NOT PLANNING SECRET ACTIVITIES THERE.

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: ON MARCH 11 PRESS REPORTED THAT SURVEYS BEGAN MARCH 10 FOR DREDGING OF A 3 KILOMETER CANAL,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BAGHDA 00614 091720Z

300 METERS WIDE AND 12 METERS DEEP, TO PROVIDE WATERFRONT

FOR 43 WHARVES. PROJECT WILL TAKE THREE YEARS AND COST ESTIMATED 35 MILLION DOLLARS. DREDGING WILL ENABLE 40,000 TON SHIPS TO ENTER PORT. CONSULTANCY WORK IS BEING DONE BY BRITISH PILING DESIGN CONSULTANTS AND 37 MILLION DOLLAR DREDGING CONTRACT SIGNED WITH JAPANESE TOA HARBOUR WORKS.

3. APRIL 21 IRAQ NEWS AGENCY RELEASE ANNOUNCED CONSTRUCTION WOULD BEGIN ON UMM QASR RIVER PROJECT IN MAY. RELEASE STATED THAT AN ITALIAN FIRM HAD BEEN AWARDED CONTRACT. THIS CONFLICTS WITH OTHER INFORMATION GIVEN ON PROJECT. IT POSSIBLE ITALIANS HAVE SIGNED FOR WORK ON WHARVES AS OPPOSED TO DREDGING WORK, BUT IT IS LIKELY THAT NAMING OF ITALIAN FIRM WAS AN ERROR.

4. MAY 30 ARTICLE IN BAGHDAD OBSERVER STATED THAT WORK HAD BEGUN DAY BEFORE AN UMM QASR. ARTICLE ADDED THAT WORK WAS CONTINUING ON REPLACEMENT OF WOODEN WHARVES AT PORTS OF UMM QASR AND M'QIL WITH CONCRETE ONES.
LOWRIE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NAVAL FORCES, JOURNALISTS, VISITS, MILITARY BASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BAGHDA00614
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750200-0975
From: BAGHDAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750669/aaaacjlb.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BAGHDAD 129
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ACTIVITY IN UMM QASR
TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, IZ, US, UR, (EVANS, ROWLAND)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006